



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY GARRISON HEIDELBERG
UNIT 29237
APO AE 09102**

IMEU-HEI-PW

MEMORANDUM FOR See Distribution

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes, Environmental Quality Control Committee, 1 Mar 06

1. At 1330 hrs, Mr Welch, Chief of the USAG Heidelberg Environmental Division (ED), called the meeting to order. Since the Committee Chairman, COL Gaddis, was unable to attend due to other commitments, the Garrison Chief of Staff, Mr. Tafoya, chaired the meeting, together with the Deputy Director of Public Works, Mr. Taylor.
2. In his opening comments Mr. Tayofa thanked all unit/organizations for their successful effort regarding the recently completed external Environmental Performance Assessment (EPAS). He pointed out, however, that now this level of performance needs to be maintained and in those areas where negative findings were reported, improved. Both Mr. Tafoya and Mr. Taylor stressed the need for more individual efforts in the area of waste recycling, where the community would be able to save many of the hard-to-get funding dollars. Mr. Tafoya reminded of the upcoming Earth Week activities and Mr. Taylor explained that Spring Clean-up will coincide with Earth Week.
3. Next, Mr. Tafoya presented Certificates of Appreciation to those individual who received special mention by the EPAS Team for their contribution to the effective conduct and success of the assessment. SGT Land, the representatives of 249th Eng Bn, took the opportunity to his unit's Environmental Compliance Officers (ECO) for turning a neglected hazardous substances management program up to it current show-case level.
4. Mr. Welch presented some information on ongoing projects in the Kaiserslautern Garrison: A bioremediation site and a very successful hazardous material tracking system.
5. Ms Emmenecker provided an overview of the current and future budget status, which shows considerable shortfalls in the environmental and non-environmental funding programs. Mr. Tafoya requested that a list of the funding requirements be provided to the Master Planning Division.
6. The draft EPAS findings were summarized by Ms Lamy, who broke the total of 79 findings down into the media area groups. She presented an overview of positive and negative findings, trends, repeat findings and funding shortfalls. Overall, the assessment documented a significant improvement compared to the results from the FY03 assessment.
7. Mr. Colabella introduced the 2006 Earth Week Activity Calendar and described the variety of events scheduled to take place during the week of 24 thru 28 April, culminating in the Earth Week Celebration at the PHV Recycling Center on 28 April. The expected guests include the Heidelberg Mayor for Environmental Protection, Dr. Wuerzner.

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8. As last agenda item Mr. Welch listed the environmental training that will take place prior to the next EQCC meeting in June 06.

9. During the following open discussion a number of current issues were raised:

a. Mr. Taylor addresses the importance of good trash separation in view of the ongoing strike of the German trash removal workers. Mr. Tafoya again stressed the potential dollar savings when community members participate in recycling, energy and water saving initiatives. Mr Vowinkel gave short a overview of his recycling and trash separation efforts, providing examples of successes and failures. Mr. Dickerson, Defense Distribution Depot Europe, asked a question regarding trash sorting in the state of Rheinland-Pfalz, where Germersheim Army Depot is located. Mr. Vowinkel promised an answer by the next EQCC meeting.

b. Mr. Ehrhardt announced a Medical Waste Management Training that will be conducted at Nachrichten Kaserne on 9 March.

c. Mr. Henning, the Hazardous Substance Program Manager, presented the opportunity for units/organizations to participate in a newly established solvent management program.

d. The effects the concern over the avian flu has on Heidelberg were addressed by Mr. Tafoya and Mr. Taylor. Current USAG Heidelberg policy is that dead migratory birds (ducks, geese, swans, storks) should not be touched by residents. The DPW has a system in place to have them removed in a safe manner. All other dead birds found on the installations should be deposited in the black trash containers, the content of which goes into incineration. Information on the subject will be provided to the community members through AFN-E and the Herald Post. Per MAJ Noeth of the 30 Med Bde, a round table/work shop is scheduled to take place on 15 March.

10. In his closing remarks Mr. Tafoya again addressed the good outcome of the EPAS and the fact that the garrison will have a number of findings corrected before the final report is actually issued. He underlined the need for units to keep up with their ECO appointments and training, especially in view of the increasing personnel rotation (PCSs) during the upcoming summer months.

11. Mr. Welch closed the meeting by announcing an Earth Week workshop to be held on 10 April 06, 1330 hrs at the DPW Conference room and by reminding all of the next EQCC meeting on 6 June 2006.

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COL, AV
Commanding

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